

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

EURE-00 TRSE-00 /058 W

-----071854Z 059663 /45

P R 071714Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6224

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 04048

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, GW, PFOR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY FOR CDU/CSU PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE

1. ON MARCH 2, 54 YEAR OLD HANNELIESE REGGENTIN, FORMER EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CDU/CSU FRAKTION LEADER RAINER BARZEL, WAS ARRESTED ON SUSPICION OF ESPIONAGE. MRS. REGGENTIN HAS BEEN RECENTLY WORKING AS A SECRETARY IN THE OFFICE OF MANFRED ABELEIN, SPEAKER FOR THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION ON INTER-GERMAN MATTERS.

2. ACCORDING TO DPA, MRS. REGGENTIN WAS UNDERGOING A ROUTINE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT HER 51 YEAR OLD HUSBAND, RUDOLF, HAD BEEN MISSING SINCE FEBRUARY 4. STATE SECURITY AUTHORITIES WERE THEN CALLED IN. RUDOLF REGGENTIN, A WORKMAN BY TRADE, IS NOW SUSPECTED OF BEING AN AGENT FOR THE GDR. HE IS REPORTEDLY OF GERMAN BACKGROUND (FROM AN AREA NOW PART OF THE GDR), AND IMMIGRATED FROM FRANCE TO THE FRG IN 1968. HE MARRIED HANNELIESE IN 1969.

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3. MRS. REGGENTIN WORKED FOR BARZEL SINCE 1963 IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES AND HAD ACCESS TO SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS RELATING TO EAST-WEST RELATIONS. SECURITY CHECKS, REPORTEDLY DONE ON HER IN 1969 AND AGAIN IN 1975, HAD REVEALED NO NEGATIVE INFORMATION.

4. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, HER OFFICE WAS SEARCHED AND INCRIMINATING MATERIALS WERE FOUND INCLUDING A PRIVATE TELEPHONE BOOK WITH ENCRYPTED DDR TELEPHONE NUMBERS. AUTHORITIES ARE STILL INVESTIGATING THE EXTENT OF HER INVOLVEMENT IN ANY ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES.

5. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT FOLLOWS LESS THAN A YEAR AFTER ANOTHER CDU LEADER -- HEINRICH BOEX, HEAD OF THE CDU'S FOREIGN RELATIONS OFFICE IN BONN -- WAS COMPROMISED (ALTHOUGH HE WAS LATER CLEARED) WHEN HIS FORMER SECRETARY WAS PICKED UP AS A GDR AGENT. (SEE BONN 8416, DATED MAY 17, 1976). EDITORIALS ARE HIGHLIGHTING THE DISCLOSURE AS ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE DANGEROUS SITUATION IN WHICH THE FRG FINDS ITSELF AND QUOTING FEDERAL PROSECUTOR SIEGRIED BUBACK'S FEAR THAT THE FRG IS REACHING THE POINT WHERE ITS ABILITY TO ACT IS BEING PARALYZED. BUBACK SAID HE TENDED TO AGREE WITH HONECKER THAT THE GDR DID, IN FACT, HAVE BETTER SPIES. CASH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL, ESPIONAGE, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY LEADERS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN04048
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770078-0148
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770387/aaaacyze.tel
Line Count: 82
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: a45d81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3190892
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY FOR CDU/CSU PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ARRESTED FOR ESPIONAGE
TAGS: PINT, PINS, PFOR, GE, CDU/CSU, (REGGENTIN, HANNELIESE), (REGGENTIN, RUDOLF), (ABELEIN, MANFRED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a45d81bc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009